

IN THE CLAIMS:

✓ **Cancel** claim 4 without prejudice.

Amend the following claims:

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1. (Amended) A permanent magnet excited rotor for an electric drive and disposed in a stator at formation of an air gap therebetween, comprising:
a rotor plate pack composed of a plurality of rotor plate sections and defining a transverse axis; and
a plurality of permanent magnets arranged on an outer surface of the rotor plate pack;
wherein each of the rotor plate sections of said rotor plate pack has pole gaps to increase a magnetic transverse resistance in a direction of the transverse axis;
wherein the pole gaps have a depth which is greater than a width of the air gap between the rotor and the stator.
 2. (Amended) The permanent magnet excited rotor of claim 1 disposed in a stator at formation of an air gap therebetween, wherein the plurality of permanent magnets is disposed on the outer surface of a rotor plate pack in the area of the air gap between the rotor and the stator.

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3. (Amended) The permanent magnetic excited rotor of claim 2, wherein the pole gaps are disposed such a manner that there is present a pole coverage of the outer surface of rotor plate pack by the plurality of permanent magnets, with a coverage by the plurality of permanent magnets in the range of from 70% to 80 %.
5. (Amended) The permanent magnet excited rotor of claim 1, wherein the pole gaps are disposed in the rotor plate pack in substantially equidistant manner.
6. (Amended) The permanent magnet excited rotor of claim 2, wherein the pole gaps are directly disposed in the area of the air gap.
7. (Amended) The permanent magnet excited rotor of claim 1, wherein the pole gaps are disposed in covered manner in the rotor plate section.
8. (Amended) The Permanent magnet excited rotor of claim 7, wherein the pole gaps are substantially filled by a material that is substantially amagnetic.
9. (Amended) The permanent magnet excited rotor of claim 1, wherein the permanent magnets are rare-earth permanent magnets.

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10. (Amended) A permanent magnet excited electric drive, comprising:
- a stator including a three-phase stator winding with a predetermined number of pole pairs; and
- a rotor including a rotor plate pack formed with pole gaps to increase the magnetic transverse resistance in a direction of a transverse axis of the rotor, and a plurality of permanent magnets received peripherally by the rotor plate pack, wherein the pole gaps have a depth which is greater than a width of the air gap between the rotor and the stator, said rotor including a same number of pole pairs as the stator.
11. (Amended) The permanent magnet excited electric drive of claim 10, configured for operation at constant power through field weakening at variable rotation speed.

Add the following claim:

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12. (New) The permanent magnet excited rotor of claim 5, wherein the pole gaps are provided in the outer surface of the rotor plate pack by at least one process selected from the group consisting of milling, stamping, and punching.
13. (New) The permanent magnet excited rotor of claim 7, wherein the pole gaps are provided in the rotor plate pack by a punching process.

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14. (New) The permanent magnet excited rotor of claim 7, and further comprising a binding for securing the permanent magnets in place.

✓IN THE DRAWING:

Amend FIGS. 1 and 4 as per copy enclosed and indicated in red.